

Message Text

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PM: CAPT. DEWENTER (DRAFT)

EUR/ RPM: ESTREATOR(DRAFT)

EUR/ SOV: JDSCANLAN(DRAFT)

EUR/ CE: NLEDSKY (SUB)

EUR/ WE: RDVINE(SUB)

EUR/ IB: TMARTIN (SUB)

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TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 050008

E. O. 11652 GDS DECLAS 3/19/94

TAGS: PBOR

SUBJECT: INCIDENTS AT SEA - ANNUAL REVIEW

1. FIRST ANNUAL REVIEW OF US/ USSR AGREEMENT ON PREVENTION OF INCIDENTS AT SEA TO BE HELD WEEK OF MAY 21, 1972. FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR NATO AT LATER DATE.

2. NAC WAS BRIEFED IN DETAIL ON AGREEMENT NOV. 3,1971, AND APRIL 25, 1972. CONCERN WAS EXPRESSED BY SOME OVER POSSIBLE US- SOVIET " BILATERALISM," AND OTHERS INDICATED INTEREST IN ACCEDING TO AGREEMENT. WHEN WIDER ACCESSION DISCUSSED IN MAY 1972 BETWEEN US/ USSR, SOVIETS PROPOSED AN " ALL- STATES" FORMULA, UNACCEPTABLE TO US AT THAT TIME BECAUSE OF SPECIAL PROBLEM OF GDR. SOVIETS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO RAISE ACCESSION ISSUE AT THIS ROUND OF TALKS.

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3. WE WISH TO DETERMINE WHETHER INTEREST IN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN EXHIBITED RECENTLY AMONG NATO MEMBERS. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT WISH TO RAISE MATTER WITH ALLIES AT THIS TIME OR TO GIVE IMPRESSION THAT USG IS ADVOCATING NATO ACCESSION. ACCORDINGLY, US NATO ASSESSMENT, BASED ON AVAILABLE INFORMATION, OF ANY INTEREST IN ACCESSION WOULD BE APPRECIATED BY MARCH 22.

4. IN US VIEW AGREEMENT THUS FAR IS CONTINUING TO SERVE ITS PURPOSE. THERE HAS BEEN A CONTINUED REDUCTION IN INCIDENTS BETWEEN SOVIET AND US NAVIES.

5. DEFENSE CONCURS. ROGERS

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